

This report vividly captures the inspiring response of The Communities of Don Guanella and Divine Providence to the Covid crisis of 2020. During an exhausting year of illness and loss, our heroes, most notably the nurses, direct support professionals, and administrators, managed to keep people safe, arguably saved lives, and established a Vaccination Clinic. This Clinic not only benefitted The Communities but also Delaware County at large, as our nurses administered over 14,000 doses to our grateful neighbors.

In the past year, along with being acutely challenging and absorbing, the pandemic evolved into an abundantly transforming experience as well. It's been transformational because the urgent demands engendered by Covid served as an insistent call to us to deepen our mission to and to re-fortify our dedication to Guanellian core values to help those with intellectual disabilities. Within this process of call and response, we discovered an untapped resilience that has enabled us to be an even more compassionate community capable of extraordinary charitable work.

Of course, we could not have realized these achievements without your prayers, confidence in us, and generous philanthropy. To advance our work beyond the pandemic and to maintain our quality of services, we will continue to require your unstintingly spiritual and material support. Please be mindful that your prayers and gifts boost our community in a special way, and we are exceedingly grateful for your generosity.


I hope you have enjoyed this newsletter and that it has enhanced your appreciation of who we are and what The Communities of Don Guanella and Divine Providence do.

CHRISTMAS CHEER AT THE COMMUNITIES

Last year was difficult for families and our individuals due to concerns with the spread of Covid and the rising number of positive cases in the community. Unfortunately our individuals were unable to go home and visit family and loved ones for the holidays. Despite the disappointment felt by everyone, holiday cheer was still present in our homes. With lots of fun activities, a holiday drive-by event at the DPV campus, thoughtful gift donations from our many partner families, parishes, and organizations, and our Christmas Eve Mass, there was much joy surrounding the celebration of our Savior's birth.



The Communities of Don Guanella and Divine Providence
Programs Serving Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities
A Division of Catholic Social Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia



The Communities of Don Guanella
and Divine Providence

Development Office
100 N. 20th Street, Suite 301
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-587-5650

Administrative Offices
20 East Cleveland Avenue
Norwood, PA 19074
610-543-3380

Divine Providence Village
686 Old Marple Road
Springfield, PA 19064
610-328-7730

Day Programs at Our Lady of Fatima
10 Fatima Drive
Secane, PA 19018
215-578-8204

DGDPCOMMUNITIES.ORG

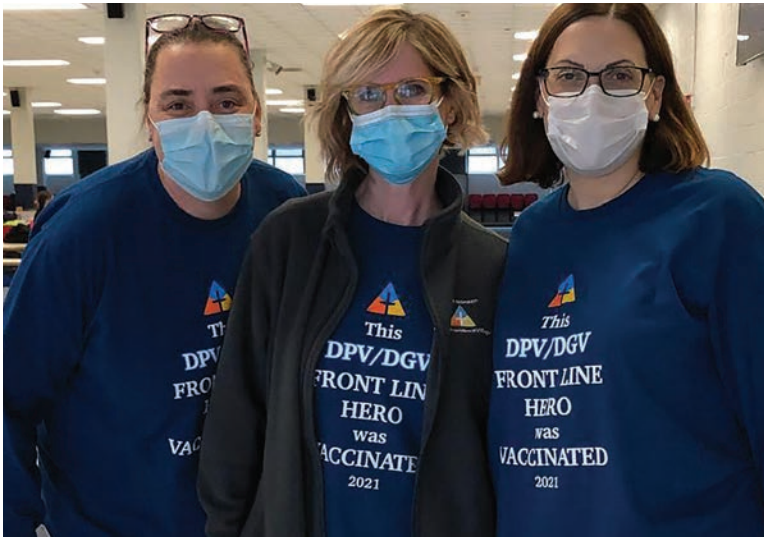
NONPROFIT ORG
US Postage Paid
Philadelphia, PA
Permit No. 7535

THE COVID VACCINE MIRACLE

at The Communities of Don Guanella and Divine Providence

Over the last year, COVID-19 has left a devastating impact on The Communities of Don Guanella and Divine Providence. Through the grace of God, on January 5th, 2021, we began the long-awaited administration of 1,000 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to our Direct Care Staff and Individuals who call DGDP home. Each shot in the arm brought forth many masked smiles and tears of joy as our most vulnerable individuals were finally united with a sense of relief after months of uncertainty and concern.

The vaccine distribution brings a sense of normalcy back to The Communities and continues our mission of restoring independence to the men and women we serve. Our prayers have been answered, and a new sense of hope has begun to blossom throughout our Communities. First up to receive the vaccine, Health Care Coordinator and registered nurse, Alicia Ryan (Alicia is pictured directly below in the first photo) said it best – “It’s surreal, because it felt like (the vaccine) would never happen, and not within the year. It’s hope. We lost a lot to COVID, and this feels like we finally have a defense, and beginning of the end.”



THE IMPACT THAT YOU HELP MAKE

Your support makes a significant impact on the lives of the individuals we serve at The Communities. We hope this newsletter helps serve as a reminder that our work would be impossible without faithful supporters like you.

Below are a few testimonial from families showing their appreciation for our mission-driven work, and a look at the number of individuals served in each of our programs.



“Specials thanks to everyone at DPV and DGV for all you do every day but especially during this very strange and scary time.”

“Thank you for all you are doing at DPV and DGV at this time. We are keeping all of your staff and residents in our prayers.”



“We wish to express our deepest appreciation to all you heroes who work so hard to care for the residents of DPV and DGV. Day in and day out you selflessly serve their considerable needs and often do it faithfully out of the sight of others. We are forever grateful for your sacrifices and wonderful loving service.”

The Communities serve over 300 individuals across a continuum of services ranging from residential programs for the medically fragile to employment services.

- Don Guanella Village – 94
- Life Sharing Homes – 75
- Divine Providence Village – 72
- Community Living Arrangements – 36
- Day Programs – 100

